

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 10-11 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 4A, ~~and 4B~~ and 4C are side views of the curtain interface being mounted to a mounting head, in accordance with the present invention.

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph at page 5, lines 8-10:

FIG. 12A and 12B are top views of alternative embodiments of the partition clamp of FIG. 1 mounted between an extension pole and an abutting surface, in accordance with the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 19-24 with the following amended paragraph:

The hinge 32 may be biased, for example by a outwardly-biased spring 44 that is external to the hinge 32 as shown, or optionally, by a inwardly-biased spring 44 that is internal to, or external to, the hinge 32. In an alternative embodiment, as shown in FIG. 12A, the hinge 33 may be ratcheted, so as to urge the arms 28, 30 toward each other along their respective bodies, with or without a spring, as discussed below. The hinge ~~[[32]]~~33 may be integrated into the first and second arms 28, 30, or optionally, may be bonded to, or mounted to, the arms 28, 30.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 9-14 with the following amended paragraph:

In an alternative embodiment, rather than the spring 44, a passively biased system may be used (for example, a system that does not include a spring 44 for actively and outwardly biasing the pole interface 34 and head clamp 40) including for example, as illustrated in FIG. 12B, a manually-operated screw 35A, for example in the form of a wingnut or knob. In this embodiment, outward tension is applied between the pole interface 34 and the head clamp 40 by manually positioning the clamp 20 between the pole and the wall, and then tightening the

manually-operated screw 35A when in place.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 7-16 with the following amended paragraph:

The head clamp 40 comprises, for example, a clamp that is adapted for receiving a mounting head. The mounting head may comprise, for example, a head having a longitudinally extended body, for example of the type described in United States Patent Application No. 10/600,300, filed of even date herewith, entitled "Partition Mount with Extended-Length Head", by Jeffery P. Whittemore, *et al.*, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference. A head with an extended body is preferred for increasing the extent of interface between the clamp 20, curtain and abutting surface, to provide a more effective seal therebetween. Alternatively, the head clamp may comprise a ball or socket of a universal joint, for interfacing with the head and clamp of the above patent application, or alternatively, for interfacing with a head of the style illustrated and described in United States Patent No. 5,924,469, incorporated by reference above.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 2-10 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3 is a top view of the partition clamp of FIG. 1 mounted between an extension pole 22 and an abutting surface. The pole 22 is erected, for example, between the floor and ceiling of a room. It can be seen in this view that the outward bias of the spring 44 (see arrows 94) serves to contemporaneously urge the wall interface 36 against the wall 26 (see arrows 96), the pole interface 34 against the pole 22 (see arrows 98), and the head clamp 40 and mounting head 48 against the wall 26 (see arrows 99). The outward bias of the spring 44 (or, as in FIG. 9, inward bias of the spring in an inverse pivoting arrangement, or, as in FIG. 12A, ratcheting action in a ratcheting arrangement 33, or, as in FIG. 12B, the tension of a hinge 35 locked in place by a manually operated screw 35A) is preferably sufficiently strong to hold the clamp in place, but not so strong as to overcome the lateral rigidity of the pole 22.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 19 - page 9, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The mounting head 48 includes an elongated body 60 and a compressible pad 62. The body 60 may comprise, for example, an extruded member formed of plastic, aluminum, or alloy, and having a "U"-shaped profile as shown. The pad 62 is mounted in cavity 63 of the body 60, and may be press-fit, or otherwise bonded in place. The pad 62, is, for example, rectangular in shape and may be formed of low-density foam or rubber, having a certain degree of compressibility, while still exhibiting resiliency. The body 60 further includes a horizontal groove 64 on each outer side surface and a top surface 66, as shown. Alternative embodiments of the mounting head are equally applicable to the principles of the present invention, including, for example, those described in United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,300, entitled "Partition Mount with Extended-Length Head", incorporated herein by reference above.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 8-16 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 4B, when the pressure 102 is released, the locking tabs 70A are fixed in the horizontal slots 64, and bear on an upper portion thereof. At the same time, inner feet 68, inside the arched body of the head clamp 40 bear down on the upper surface 66 of the body 60 of the mounting head 48. This interaction of locking tabs 70A, 70B and the inner feet 68, secures the head clamp 40 to the mounting head 48. They are released from each other by the same operation. The lower surface of the inner feet 68, and/or the upper surface of the mounting head body 66 may optionally include a non-skid material application, in order to prevent slippage between the units. In an alternative embodiment, as shown in FIG. 4C, the head 48 ~~may be~~ is integral with the second arm 30.